NORTHERN UFO NEWS

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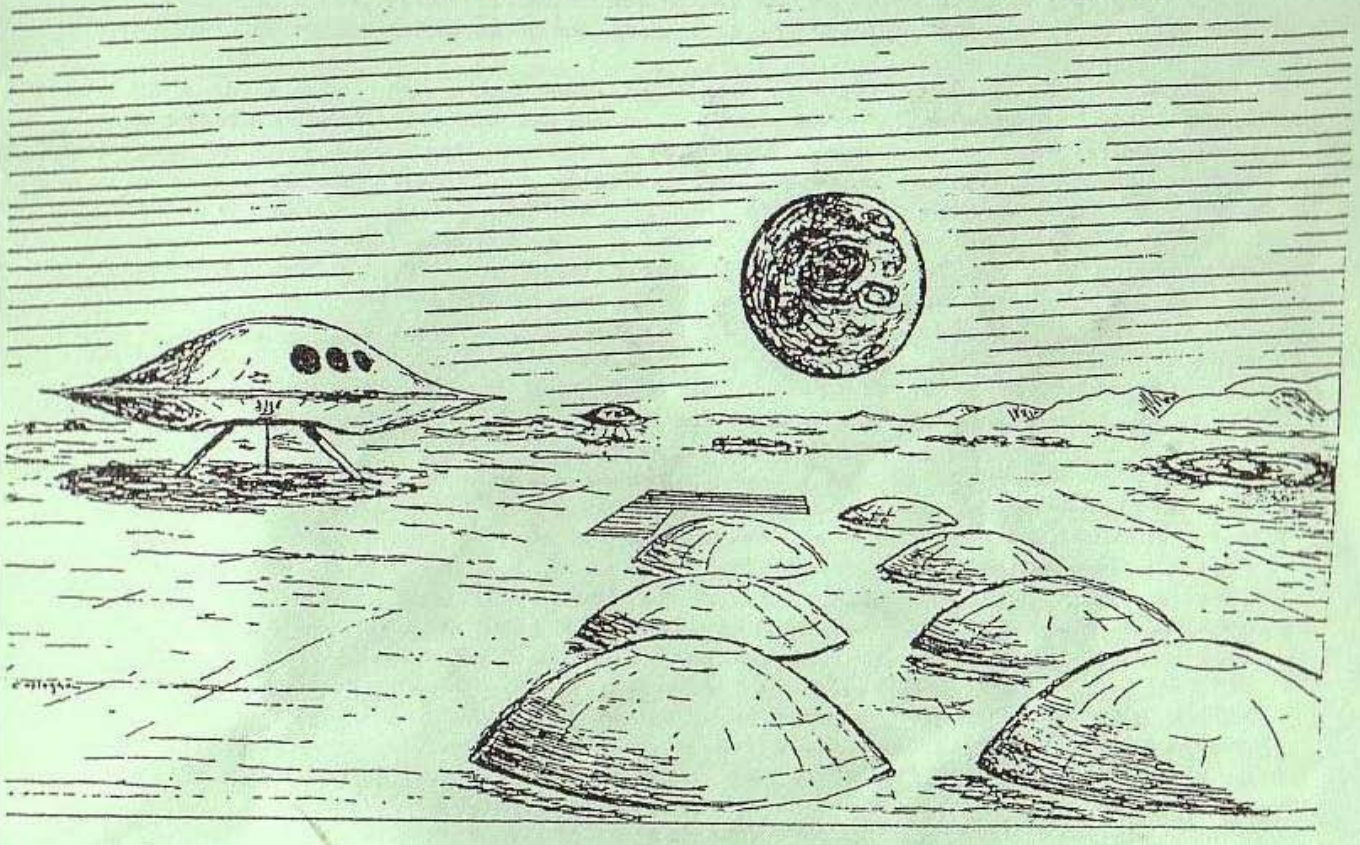

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Editor: Jenny Randles Cover: Bill Callaghan
Logos: Bill Callaghan

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37 HEATHBANK ROAD CHEADLE HEATH STOCKPORT CHESHIRE ENGLAND SK3 0UP

J. R. Comments. . . *Reader Nigel Watson's decidely mean (not to say at times pretty misleading) review of 'From out of the Blue' in such an influential magazine as April's Fortean Times set me thinking about that classic case. He seems to think I beef up an unimportant incident so much with what he seems to consider irrelevacies that it becomes little short of reader deception. He's entitled to think that, but I really don't see how it can be justified... So just why is this case worth devoting more space to?*

Firstly, it is true that it happened some years ago - late December 1980. Something apparently came down in a forest outside a NATO air base near Ipswich and a series of encounters followed involving USAF airmen, radar trackings, ground traces, animal effects and other close encounter symptoms. Civilians on the outside looking in witnessed something too.

Immediately, you see that this is not a run-of-the-mill matter in these days of routine LITS. It has much to offer. When coupled with the official documentation - notably the infamous Halt memo, sent by the base to the British MoD and I think indisputibly the most significant case report ever squeezed out of their closed doors - but also the near unique 'live tape' that records the return of the UFOs as radiation readings are taken - then it is easy to see why it has become one of UFOlogy's great legends.

Therein lies a crucial reason behind my writing 'From out of the blue' which Nigel evidently missed. I was fortunate to have had some role in the case almost from day one (the radar operators story first came to my notice only four weeks after the events occurred and as early as January 1981). In the 11 years since much information has come my way but the only book ever written about the case ('Sky Crash' in 1983/1984) was problematical for various reasons. Not only was it compiled at a time when we had relatively little data and a great deal of confusion but as I put it together I had to rely on the often contradictory memories of my two colleagues (Brenda Butler and Dot Street) - whose efforts on this case can never be over-emphasised (indeed without them there would have been no case) but who, I have to say, were at the time not very adept at recording full written data. Since I had personally met none of the military eyewitnesses I was at a considerable disadvantage. We also had a publisher who wanted to market the book as 'alien' for sad but realistically understandable reasons.

Much has happened since then and for a long time I have wanted the opportunity to put into one source all that I knew on the case (whether it was seemingly significant or perhaps insignificant). Moreover, I had now had the chance to meet some witnesses and their own words could be set down (which 'Sky Crash' generally could not do). Furthermore, I could express my own thoughts on the various options available to explain the case which seemed to present themselves without having to take account of the views of co-authors (it is not widely realised, for instance, that Brenda, Dot and I had differing interpretations of the case even when we wrote 'Sky Crash')

Unfortunately, negative attitudes like that of Nigel Watson predominate about this case. It is rubbish. Not worth writing about. It was probably all explained away as a lighthouse. So say many sincere and intelligent people. As a result - despite the fact that 'Sky Crash' has been a successful UFO book everywhere BUT in Britain (its still in print nudging towards 100,000 sales) - no serious publisher here was willing to take on a new project. At times this seemed akin to the remarkable media disinterest we have faced (the case IS British, don't forget). But it is easy to cry cover up.

In truth, I suspect there are more matter-of-fact reasons why this apathy resulted. To the average UFO buff the case is interesting precisely because it offers tantalising hope of being an alien craft. To the serious UFO researcher (exactly whom I want to think deeply about the matter) it seems strangely tainted by the media abreaction. Certainly, I understand why any case that makes the front page of the News of the World in banner headlines (as this one did in 1983 - partly thanks to me) is inevitably going to engender suspicion. This is something I now think of as a mistake, even though at the time it seemed unavoidable. But then I wanted to legitimise it through this new book and show exactly why it bears more respect than it tends to get in its native land.

This is probably the UFO case that over the years I have given most consideration to. It is undoubtedly the one about which I have accumulated the most information. As Andy Roberts says in his perceptive review for 'UFO Brigantia' it is also over-emphasised for the wrong reasons - the myth of the unimpeachable military witness. He is right. They can make as many errors of perception as the rest of us. But for me the case has significance less because of who saw what, but because it acts as a mirror to UFOlogy. It shows in microcosm all the difficulties that we face. If we cannot resolve what took place in Rendlesham Forest, despite all that we know and years of effort by many people, how can we hope to make value judgements about extraordinary theories (from the ETH to a new wave global psychosis) from all the far less documented stories with vastly inferior data?

This is a critical recognition. UFOlogy does not stand or fall on one case. Its strength comes from a collection of data spread over many years. But it is made from single cases and the best of these let us chose between the mundane and the exotic when it comes to interpreting the phenomenon.

The Bentwaters incident has all the elements (from LITS to time loss abductions) rolled into one storyline. It has perplexed many people from the witnesses to the MoD and debunkers to believers. As such it is the heart and soul of our phenomenon laid bare and I believe it valuable to set out an account of all we know, including things that may or may not be related.

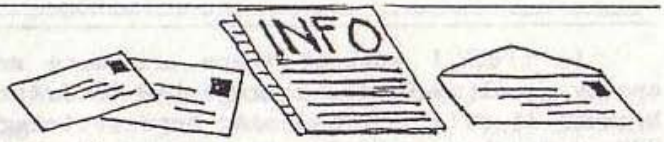
As an instance, Nigel Watson says I 'believe' an army sargeant who offers dubious files - a bizare mistake, which, frankly, not only shows how poorly he seems to have read the book but how little in tune he is with UFOlogy. The fact that I did NOT believe these documents and regarded them as bogus is precisely why I told the Manchester Evening News that in October 1989 and why, as a result, awful repercussions followed which came very close to shutting down NUN and forcing me out of UFOlogy. Some belief!

But, belief or disbelief is largely irrelevant here. For this is a story obviously part of the mythos of the case (as the facts make clear). Since it happened it HAD to be told as objectively as it could be. I contend that I do this - so what is Nigel alleging? That Peter Hough and I are lieing and somehow making up such incidents? If so, he's wrong and can prove it.

Nigel further dismisses the importance of other side issues (such as the very odd radar experiments that have occurred in the Bentwaters area, or the most peculiar nature of the multiple space debris falls that entered the atmosphere over eastern England on that fateful night). But how does he KNOW these things are unimportant? If you aim to fathom out a case you need to look at all the angles. Thats UFOlogy in action, certainly as I see it.

It is easy to 'solve' the UFO mystery before you start. But to do that here - as in any field study - is just a cop-out. This case MAY be an IFO, UAP, experiment or alien craft. I have my view. You will have yours. What counts is that research gives the facts to allow such decisions to be made.

NEWS ROUND UP



:: Ken Higgins of SRUFO has unfortunately had to retire through pressure of work and Vincent Johnston has now taken over. See new details on p. 16.

:: Thanks to Victor Kean in Germany for a follow up to Dr Peter Talbot's comments (see last issues news). Dr Talbot had disputed Miles Johnston's claims that a wave of animal mutilations had occurred on the Scottish Isles after checking impressively with many sources that should have known (eg the Crofters Union and the local press). However, Victor reports that a TV programme narrated by David Attenborough ('The Return of the Killer Mink' made by SSVC) was screened in April. This depicted the mutilated sheep on the outer islands 'with their brains sucked out' - although mink and crows were explained as the cause by David A. So it looks like score one to Miles Johnston - the question being, as Victor Kean says, just how the many people whom Dr Peter Talbot consulted were as blissfully unaware as they claimed to be of something that was seemingly going on right in their midst?

:: Three new book catalogues to hand. Arcturus (PO Box 831383 Stone Mountain GA 30083-0023 USA T: 404-297-4624) offer a gaggle of new US books (that's US as in US of A - not US as in US... or, in some cases maybe not...) Highlight seems to be David Jacobs 'Secret Life' abduction study (at $21) and one they seem to like called 'UFOs are Supernatural' from Fred Williams (at $12) - described as 'a throwback to the early days of UFO literature'... Meanwhile, Alice Ashton who used to be at the heart of Belgian group SOBEPS now runs NBS Mail Order (Stone House Quarry Lane Nantmawr Oswestry SY10 9HL) which has selected around 100 current titles as those likely to be the most useful to serious researchers and issues an A4 catalogue divided into sections (including a good UFOlogy one). So send an SAE if you want to see whats on offer... Finally, there's Midnight Books (The Haven 21 Windsor Mead Sidford Sidmouth Devon EX10 9SJ T: 0395-516806) run by ex SCUFORI member Steve Shipp and with a good catalogue inc magazines, second hand and new titles, including some rareties like Jessup's 1950's books or a first edition of Vallee's classic 'Passport to Magonia' - allbeit at rates of £15 - £20 (although other titles are a lot cheaper)

AREA 51 UNMASKED?

Area 51 in the Nevada desert has been the hub of excitement recently with stories about 'alien craft' flown there by US pilots. There have also been many reports of huge triangular craft with smooth bases and unnerving abilities seen in some parts of the UK, Belgium (1989-1991) and recently in parts of the USA. It is now possible that we know what all these things refer to. According to both aviation experts and 'For Your Eyes Only' (an 'American intelligence newsletter' - eh?) the source is a new high-tec super plane code named Aurora; reputedly wider than it is long, very much akin to UFOs that have been reported with a sleek, plate like design. Some reports say it is unmanned, can fly slowly and near silently, lands and rolls upside down to reduce radar reflectivity but also has rapid acceleration to SIX times the speed of sound. It is housed in the Nevada desert but at least one has flown in Europe. I am reliably informed that these sources were spot on when previewing 'Stealth' aircraft long before they were admitted. So....

ABDUCTION:- A RUSH TO JUDGEMENT?

In January a 21- year old NUFON reader from Hertfordshire (Mr A) wrote to describe his experiences. He said that he had never 'consciously' seen a UFO but had 'recognised' or 'known' what of them back to early childhood.

When he took seriously to UFOs (thanks to 'The Unexplained' in 1988) he began to recall dreams of UFOs from age six or seven. These were very realistic at the time. He discovered (in 1990 via Tim Good's 'UFO Report') the story of the 'greys' and 'genetic abductions' and was shaken because one of his earlier dreams involved him in a similar situation. He recalls one abductee saying 'the greys are untrustworthy'. Mr A then read more books (notably Edith Fiore's 'Abductions' and Ed Walters 'Gulf Breeze') (as you can see a 'balanced', objective reading list). He also trained himself on the edge of sleep to urge his mind to 'replay' his UFO dreams.

What happened? He did experience an odd vision/memory of an object overhead, standing in his garden as a child surrounded by small beings quite paralysed as a result and another with a huge burst of white light, followed by nothing. Was this a memory struggling to get through (certainly what many abduction researchers would propose)? Or forced imagination based on his choice of UFO reading and desire to seek out these images?

Mr A says they came to him like flash negatives. One repeated dream was traumatic (a scene of two blocks of wood and a wire stretched between them which vibrated and caused his whole body to shake). What was this, he asks?

Then, on 23 April 1991 came a new dream that 'felt so real I thought it must have happened...I could feel the wind of the night air and the dew sodden grass under my feet.'It involved UFOs over a valley. He had also written a 64 chapter book between 1987 and 1990 'that might just be pure fantasy'...Or not. What did all of this mean?

This is the classic dilemma shared by CE 4 researchers everywhere. In the USA the course would be clear - regress Mr A and see what emerges. I doubt you need two goes to make a prediction of what probably would result were it done. However, had this happened in January when Mr A first set out his thoughts, would it have effected his reappraisal two months later?

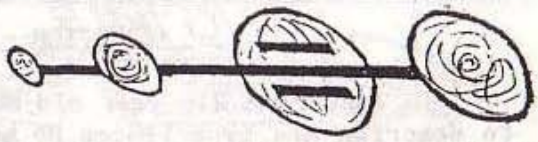
For now he wrote to say the following. 'On further research I have to conclude that most of my dreams have nothing to do with real contacts.' He then outlines reasons why the dreams seem to 'possess hidden psychological meanings; for example finding myself alien to the human race. These seem to reflect some of my own personal evaluations.

Interestingly, he has also discovered a written note penned only days after his 'greys are untrustworthy' dream. This shows that his memory after the fact by some years (perhaps because of the books he had read since) had coloured his recall markedly, to such an extent that it was 'very different from what I remember'. He has also studied his novel and feels that this matches too closely his own views and situations to be an inner memory.

But he is still bugged by that paralysis 'dream' in the garden in the middle of the night. He has recently had a flash vision in which he saw more and concluded that it was part of a sequence...'There were lights in the sky and I was petrified as they moved around me...It coincides with a peculiar habit of mine, which used to consist of looking at the sun and saying 'The sun is my friend'...I don't know why I used to do this.'

I think this honest, self-analysis is of great importance. How often do CE4 'witnesses' have time for reflection, being railroaded into what seems an easy way out of their confusion by both our literature and researchers? Hypnosis brings memory or delusion. We cannot know which. Never forget that.

CIRCULAR LOGIC



As we gear up for who knows what this summer cereology has continued to thrive.

The Sunday Mirror wound up their two year competition in April, without awarding anyone the £10,000 prize on the grounds that nobody solved the mystery to the mutual agreement of the judges. When you learn that the judges were Professor Archie Roy, Dr Terence Meaden, Colin Andrews and myself I doubt that will come as a major shock. Did we agree on anything, I wonder?

Instead the paper donated £1000 to a childrens charity and quoted Roy and Andrews applauding that (12 April). In case you are wondering why I was not quoted doing likewise (in fact not quoted at all), perhaps it had something to do with the fact that of several hundred entries I spent a lot of time reviewing for the Mirror I DID propose that some money be paid out to those with the most original research ideas and important new data.

There were several significant eye witnesses cases and interesting avenues for research , but then I guess that what I considered valuable might seem less relevant to others. In any case; although I obviously approve of the £1000 paid to charity, did the spirit of the competition - if maybe not the rules - call for at least some of the prize money to go to those entrants who genuinely added the most to the debate? Readers muttering darkly about the whole thing being just a publicity gimmick should cease such inappropriate thoughts. I, at least, took it a lot more seriously than that or I would never have agreed to be a judge.

A new group - YCCR (Yorkshire Crop Circle Research) (20 Newton Gardens Ripon N. Yorks) have been in touch regarding a video they took near Avebury on 22 June 1991. They say they are a 'society promoting support and interpretation of the seemingly impossible and improbable but inscrutably real' and were a bit put out by my mention in the December issue that Arthur C Clarke claimed to know who faked the Mandlebrot shaped circle in Cambridgeshire last summer. They imply his views were irrelevant unless he went to see it for himself. I don't actually agree that personally viewing a circle makes much difference if you learn of an alleged hoaxer for it.

Anyhow, to be fair to YCCR, they have made an attempt to check out their own video (which depicts orange balls of light). The idea of parachute flares was mooted given the location, but they cite some evidence to counter this and publish their data in a March 1992 bulletin. No price quoted.

Contact UK's stance on circles is a bit worrying. In Awareness (11 Ouseley Close New Marston Oxford OX3 0JS) they tell how the media reported the research of physicists Meaden and Ohtsuki who 'focused on a biased meteorological explanation' (what is an unbiased meteorological explanation I wonder?) They add that 'anybody claiming to have seen something which seemed to agree with Meaden's plasma vortex...was paraded by the press as a 'definitive witness'.' Then noting (in words that mystify me) that 'Most other investigating groups claim that nobody has seen the creation of a circle except those who consider the whole business a vast hoax.'

Now either 'most other groups' have been telling porkies to Contact or they are woefully misinformed here. I have myself interviewed several ete witnesses who have seen circles appear and read accounts carefully gathered first hand by others from 20 or 30 more. NOT ONE fits the Contact description. That all of them offer reports which match the plasma vortex hypothesis so readily is not a big conspiracy...But it is a crucial fact.

The big debate in The Crop Watcher at present (see issues 9, 10 and 11 ; £1.50 each or £9 for six from - 3 Selborne Ct Tavistock Close Romsey Hants SO51 7TY) concerns last years findings reported by Michael Chorost and others with a grant from the Fund for UFO Research in the USA. These reputedly found radiological changes in a few samples taken from crop circles in the UK. Paul Fuller (as a professional statistician) has got together with a couple of colleagues to criticise some of the techniques used and further notes that some of the small number of circles used in the sampling are highly suspect from a hoaxing point of view. Furthermore there is some concern being expressed that radiation might have been picked up whilst the samples were flown back to the USA before being tested.

This debate looks like being a hot potato and Chorost, not surprisingly, intends to refute these Crop Watcher arguments and to return to Britain this summer to carry out more experiments. Obviously, this research is vital whoever turns out to be right in the end and cereologists are already enthusing a lot in public about the significance of these results; even though they do not seem to necessarily support an 'alien' view more than they would an 'ionized plasma' evaluation.

Anyhow you can check this out for yourself as the Fund are offering Chorost's report on sale. It contains 73 pages with photos, a 1991 catalogue of circles, plus the Marshall Dudley results on radiation testing. Entitled 'The Summer 1991 Crop Circles: The data emerges' it retails at $30 (around £18 - post inclusive) from: - FUFOR PO Box 277 Mt Rainier MD 20712 USA.

Finally, news that (according to the Star, 5 Mar) Reg Presley - singer of the sixties rock band 'The Trogs' (whose hit record 'Wild Thing' is again popular due to its use in TV adverts) - was reportedly interviewed by the constabulary when he 'tried to break into a corn circle enthusiasts meeting carrying a satellite dish'. He allegedly told the paper; 'I believe we are close to making contact with extraterrestrial beings.'

FOR YOUR PERUSAL

Major articles elsewhere

UFO Brigantia 51 (£12, inc NUN: 15 Rydal St Burnley Lancs BB10 1HS)
A new departure for the magazine with new design format. Excellent article by Hilary Evans exploring the problems of CE4s, plus reports on the Roswell and Spitzbergen crashes and a look at psychic questing from within.

Folklore Frontiers (£5, for 4: 5 Egton Dr Seaton Carew Hartlepool TS25 2AT)
A bit OTT at times of late but the usual quirky items - like a look at the idea that Freddie Mercury died before it was announced he had AIDS.

J. Meteorology Mar (£23 for 10; 54 Frome Rd Bradford on Avon Wilts BA15 1LD)
Interesting report on possible ball lightning photo event in Austria.

Wild Places 4 (£6, for 4: 42 Victoria Rd Mt Charles St Austell PL25 4QD)
A rich and varied issue with pieces ranging from two studies of the ETH and broader examinations of parapsychological matters. Welcome back Kevin.

Rattlers Tales 14 (£8, for 4: Anthony North BCM Keyhole London WC1N 3XX)
80pp of short stories and short items, some with a supernatural bent. Neat.

The Ley Hunter 116 (£7, for 3: PO Box 92 Penzance Cornwall TR18 2XL)
The usual mix of earth mysteries and earthlights news.

IUR Feb 92 ($30, for 6: 2457 W Peterson Ave Chicago IL 60659 USA)
Yet more goings on in Gulf Breeze (this time recorded by camcorder) plus an interesting collection of views on why (US) UFOlogy is in a mess.

MUFON Journal ($20 for 12; 103 Oldtowne Rd Seguin TX 78155-4099 USA)
Feb: Are alien abductions a cover for darker forces?
Mar: An abduction special and preview of Dave Jacob's Secret Life.

Orbiter Feb 92 (Exchange ONLY via:- PO Box 652 Reading MA 01867 USA)
Was Fort Itaipu an earthlights type encounter? Plus other bits and bobs.

Just Cause Mar 92 ($20 for 4; PO Box 218 Coventry CT 06238 USA)
Some quite intriguing hypnotic recollections of the Roswell case which might support the exoltic balloon theory!

Focus Sep 91 ($30 for 4; 4219 W. Olive Ave Suite 247 Burbank CA 91505 USA)
Bill Moore's newsletter is usually very interesting with his perspective on the US cover up. Aside from George on the MBF circles saga there is the other side of the heated debate that has brewed over Randle and Schmitt's (in view excellent) Roswell book from the original investigative team.

UFO Universe Spring 92 ($21 for 4; 1700 Broadway New York NY 10019 USA)
Bit of a revamp for this US newsstand mag; although its the usual sensationalist fare (MJ-12, crashed UFOs and an, er, liberal look at circles)

Strange 8 (£13.50 for 4; PO Box 2246 Rockville MD 20847 USA)
This is well worth your time now its easy to subscribe in UK funds. 70 packed pages of all manner of Fortean stuff - including a report on a new edition of Ian Watson's Miracle Visitors. You all know how I like that!!!

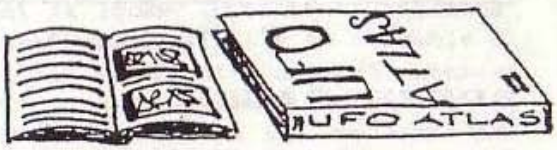
Ufologia 11 (3700 ptas for 4; Rualasal 22 39001 Santander Spain)
Neat new Spanish equivalent of FSR with a lot of big names chipping in and (if you can read Spanish) the sort of illustrated material over 104 pages that you'll love. Recommended.

Phenomena (120FF for 6; BP 324 13611 Aix en Provence Cedex 1 France)
Easily the best French magazine with a handy English summary now included each issue if youre French is a bit passe. There is always something good in this glossy well illustrated magazine and as a well informed UFOnait you need to be au fait with how the OVNIs are en Francais... Comprendez-vous?

Eurofon 5 (1300 FB for 6; 54 Princes Marijkestraat 5961 CH Horst Holland)
A very neat graphic artwork designed magazine (a few UK computer graphics mad journals could learn a thing or two). In French but a very good way to keep in touch with UFOlogy in Belgium and Holland, where a lot goes on.

UFO Research Australia tell me that the (superb) Computer Book mentioned last issue (a world's first as you can interface with it!) is available for $33 Aus (inc post to UK) (thats around £15). If you have an IBM PC with hard disc and EGA or VGA graphics don't hesitate. You can pay by VISA too. Contact Dynamo House Pty PO Box 110 Richmond VIC 3121 Australia (Fax: 03-429-8036)

BOOKS OF THE MOMENT



AN EXPERIMENT WITH ALIEN INTELLIGENCE Larry Kingston 1992 112 pages
£5.95 from Regency Press 125 High Holborn London WC1V 6QA

In 1972 Larry Kingston wrote 'UFOs over Kirkby' - a nice little booklet on Merseyside cases (by coincidence Kirkby is again an active hot spot - see this issue!) Two decades later he follows it with this little ditty - in the form of a neat pocket sized book that is very professionally produced although from an unfamiliar source. It is real old fashioned stuff - cases and anecdotes and the odd speculation tossed in here and there. It won't change your views on anything but its indisputably a good read.

One peculiarity is that it seems stuck in a time warp in content as well as style. Nothing seems newer than 1976 and it jars a bit when you hear BUFORA refered to as 16 years old (I am presently editing the book to be launched at our 30th birthday bash in September!) Still there is a smashing story revealing the truth about the infamous 'little men' of Leam Lane told in the 'I was that leprauchaun' mould. Above all this is an enjoyable unpretentious offering. In a world of brash 'Mystery Solved' titles (em, now, what am I thinking of here?) there is every place for this. Its fun.

THE UFO SILENCERS Timothy Green Beckley 1991 160 pages
$9.95 plus post from Inner Light Box 753 New Brunswick NJ 08903 USA

You always know what you are getting from an Inner Light book as soon as you see the garish cover (although this one is a bit more sedate). Tim Beckley, as its guru, knows how to give American UFOlogy what it wants and here presents the first modern day look at MIB - or Men in Black.

As you might imagine its an uneven mish mash with anecdotes scattered across time from sources of very mixed credibility and with almost zero analysis of their meaning at the best of times. In fact its really a bunch of tall tales which you can either take or leave. But it is a good reflection of the sub-culture of this hidden side to the UFO subject.

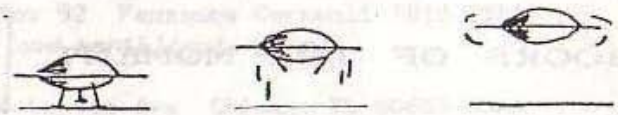
Do strangers still visit witnesses giving veiled warnings or posing odd questions? Anyone who has read reports on the Shelley (Bolton) 1976 or the Ilkley Entity (1987) sagas will know that MIB are alive and well in English UFOlogy today. As such we do need to pay more attention to these peculiarities of the field. Who are these people - secret service agents - aliens - or part of the phenomenon itself? Nobody knows and this book probably won't help you find out either, but it may be a starting point.

Surprise, surprise - crop circles have spawned MIB now!!! On pages 157-159 we find a 1990 incident from Ireland in which a stranger meets a farmer near his circles. Cereology will no doubt love this ludicrously thin yarn.

There's also a new introduction by John Keel to set the scene.

CAPTAIN KIRK RESCUED BY ALIENS?...THE BROOKSIDE SPECTRE...PERCY SUGDEN PSYCHIC SUPERSTAR...EMMERDALE FARMER SLEEPS WITH GHOST...*Just some of the tales from TV celebrities (many gathered from first hand interviews) in my book "Phantoms of the soap operas" (190 page hardback).* I have some brand new authors copies on offer at 50% shop price....Just £5 (payable 'Jenny Randles') for post inclusive copy at this bargain rate. (US $10 in bills)

BRIEF CASES



Some current investigations

Notes:

Margaret Fry asks me to point out that in the report on the South Wales CE 4 it was the witnesses eldest son who invited her to a Bristol UFO meeting because HE has an interest. But she has never told him or the family about what happened.

A RATHER UNUSUAL TIME LAPSE

This is a story for which there seem few precedents. Perhaps you can let us know if you are aware of anything with similarities.

In summer 1990, Mrs S from Lancashire awoke to find the house quiet (unusual with two sons and living on a noisy estate). She got out of bed and saw the time was 11.22 by her digital alarm. She went down the landing, used the loo and looked over the bannister to see if a letter she was expecting had come in the morning post. There was no post at all. Then she had a glass of water and used the sink. Feeling tired and with no rush to get up she went for 'another half hour' lay on top of the bed.

The next thing she knew her husband was rousing her with the expected letter. She said 'Oh it came in the lunch time post then' and he rather bemusedly pointed out that it was only 9.10! She explained what occurred and he laughed, but she was convinced she had had a 'forwards' time slip of about two hours. Her husband - ever the rationalist - pointed out a flaw - why was the letter not there. Mrs S had a ready answer - 'because you gave it to me at 9.10 so of course it was not there at 11.22'.

Unless we can accept real time travel, this appears to be an unusually vivid form of false awakening - a not unheard of altered state of consciousness. It certainly shows the extraordinary realism of a vision - if that is all it was - making one well appreciate how a CE 4 might be equally powerful for the witness... But you may have other suggestions to offer.

THE INVASION OF THE ALIEN WASPS

If you thought the above case was odd then hold onto your hats for this next tale which is one of the most peculiar I have yet come across.

Mac, now lives in England, but at the time (1940) lived in Dumfries, Scotland aged 10. This was the war time, of course, so nobody took any chances and when his mother heard a noise at 02.00 she went to check the front door and ran screaming down the corridor swatting her hair. She was being chased by what looked like a giant wasp (slightly larger than a normal wasp).

Mac went to help by attacking it with a rolled up newspaper but it was too evasive, out flying all attempts to bring it down. So he got a strut from an orange box and caught it with a heavy wallop without effect! Then he hit it again and this time it fell to the floor. In a mad panic Mac got an axe come hammer weighing 7 lbs and went after it with that! Despite smashing this down on the thing it did not even dent. Mac says 'the hammer was just bouncing off!' despite being hit at least five solid blows.

Taking a closer look at it he saw that it looked like metal and some sort of miniature flying device; although camoflagued slightly to resemble a wasp. There was no sound at any time during this affair (the only difference from a real wasp until a close up view was possible). There were lots of rumours about secret weapons at this time (when Britain was in imminent danger of invasion) and his mother always called it 'one of Adolf's things'. Oddly, despite this danger he picked it up between two slats of wood and threw it on to the fire where it was consumed (thus, presumably it was not metal after all). Mac is now convinced it was an alien scout craft.

What are we to make of this? If we accept it as it stands I am reminded of the metal insect that appeared on the cliff top around the same period in the recent Margaret Fry case. Mac certainly did NOT see that article or could know of her report, so at best this is a coincidence.

Your views on this amazing story would be appreciated.

CASE 9206 8 Jan 1992 Darley Dale, Matlock, Derbyshire MUFORA B 4-5

A case first reported to Jodrell Bank involves a 79 year old woman who looked out of her snowbound hillside home at 21.40 to observe what she thought was an aircraft. As it came nearer it appeared as a 'spinning top' shape with lights around the edge. She hurried outside to watch it pass overhead making no sound at all. MUFORA could not trace any aircraft in the area at the time, but this must remain an option (eg mountain rescue?) Possibly the snow could muffle the sound... Otherwise it is unexplained.

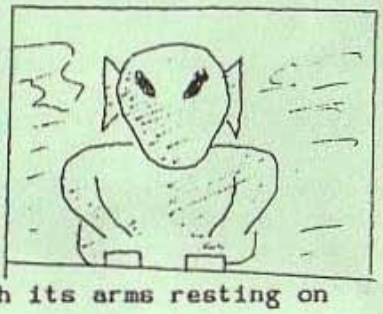
SOMETHING IN THE EIRE Investigation by Anne Griffin/Pat Delaney BUFORA

M, a farm caretaker, was returning from a football match at 20.30 in October 1972 at Clonsilla near Dublin when he spotted an orange ball like the setting sun in the north-west sky. It was observed moving slowly and even seen through trees. He and some friends climbed a tower to watch it disappear over the city. Six years later (1977) he saw a red light over the Sliabh Na Mon mountains in Southern Tipperary which changed to white, became more diffuse and rose into the sky.

KELLY-HOPKINSVILLE, UK

S, who was aged 12 at the time, describes an experince which years later has led to his becoming an investigator into UFOs. It occurred in November 1973 near Oxford. S saw an orange ball over woodland from his bedroom just before going to bed one night. He then watched it through binoculars. It moved in a step like manner then descended out of view behind trees. His mother also was present for part of the time.

The next day S went with three friends to the woodland to see if they could find any trace. After a couple of hours two of the boys went home leaving S and a friend. As night was coming on they decided to decided to walk over Shotover Hill and as they did so a white diamond of light streaked down from the sky, growing larger as it came nearer. They ran to a call box and phoned a report to the police. As they left to go home a much more frightening thing was to follow. 'A black shape blocked our path. We were rooted to the spot. It was our height, squatted down with hunched shoulders with its arms resting on



its knees but it was the red eyes that caused us to run like there was no tomorrow.' He adds that 'at the time I had a very large black pet Alsation and know that what I saw was no dog.' His description and sketch is very like the famous Kelly-Hopkinsville monster case from the USA.

It should be stressed that S is a very objective and responsible investigator and knows all the possible misidentifications for this case. He recognises how childhood excitement might have exaggerated things a little but wanted to report what he saw.

Final Words...

As I close this issue news is coming in that the mid-air encounter over Kent with a 'black missile' last April has now been officially pronounced a UFO by the Civil Aviation Authority (see note in Summer 1991 NUN) Obviously this is intriguing and we may have an update next issue. All the media seem to have been enraptured by the thought of official confirmation by the CAA and it was being widely promoted.

Incidentally - surprise, surprise - NOBODY got the competition right linking BOTH authors of 'Crop Circles: A Mystery Solved' with TVs Ruth Rendall series. Here's the answer... Sargeant Burden (or rather the actor played by him) comes from Stockport and the fictional Kings Markham in the series where he and Wexford live and work is actually Romsey... these being the real homes of the two authors. Had you foxed that one apparently.

JUST AN APOLOGY THAT THIS ISSUE IS FOUR PAGES SHORT DUE TO PRESSURE OF WORK AND THE NEED TO GET IT OUT BEFORE A LECTURE TRIP TO THE USA. THE MISSING PAGES WILL BE ADDED TO THE JUNE ISSUE SO YOU WON'T LOSE OUT.

NUFON Regional Groups

SPI	(W. Scotland)	41	The Brees, Tullibody, Clackmannanshire	FK10 2TT
SRUFO	(E. Scotland)	14	Relugas Gardens Edinburgh Scotland	EH 9 2PU
NLUFOIG	(Cumbria)	89	Bare Lane, Morecambe, Lancashire	LA 4 6RN
FUFOIG	(Fylde Coast)	293	Devonshire Rd, Blackpool, Lancashire	FY 2 0TW
MUFORA*	(North West)	6	Silsden Ave, Lowton, Lancashire	WA 3 1EN
IUN	(Yorkshire)	1	Woodhall Dr, Healey Lane, Batley, W. Yks	WF17 7SW
SSPR	(Derbyshire)	17	Old Quarry Ave, Wales, Sheffield	S 31 8RW
SKYSCAN	(Staffs)	116	Repton Rd, Burton on Trent, Staffs	DE11 7AE
EMUFORA	(Notts)	8	Roosa Close, Bulwell, Nottingham	NG 6 7BL
PARASEARCH	(W. Midlands)	79	Sandringham Rd, Stourbridge, , W. Mid	DY 8 5HL
LUFOIC	(E. Midlands)	12	Unicorn C/van , Unicorn St, Thurmaston	LE 4 8AX
NUFORC	(Northants)	46	Occupation Rd, Corby, Northants	NN17 2EF

* NUFON archive files held in central Manchester accessible c/o MUFORA T: 0942-604265

Incidentally, with the opening of Metrolink - Britains first new through the streets tramway system - you can now visit the NUFON files at their city centre home by tram. Just get off at the Central Library station and their home is very nearby. Talk about back to the future! PRIOR ARRANGEMENT BY PHONING AS ABOVE IS ESSENTIAL FOR ANY VISIT.